
**Appropriations Subcommittee on Health
& Human Services**

HB 1534

Brief Description: Increasing the impaired dentist program license or renewal surcharge.

Sponsors: Representatives Riccelli, Harris, Ryu and Jinkins.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Increases the maximum surcharge on licensed dentists used to fund the impaired dentist program from \$25 to \$50.

Hearing Date: 2/14/13

Staff: Mary Mulholland (786-7391).

Background:

The Dental Quality Assurance Commission (DQAC), the disciplining authority for licensed dentists in Washington, contracts with a voluntary substance abuse monitoring program for the purpose of implementing an impaired dentist program. The impaired dentist program may include referrals to substance abuse treatment, education and prevention, and post-treatment monitoring.

If the DQAC determines that the unprofessional conduct of a licensed dentist under investigation may be the result of substance abuse, the DQAC may refer the licensed dentist to the program in lieu of disciplinary action. By rule, the DQAC also permits licensed dentists who are not under investigation to voluntarily participate in the impaired dentist program.

The DQAC contract with the voluntary substance abuse monitoring program must be financed by a surcharge of up to \$25 on the initial applications or renewals of licensed dentists.

Summary of Bill:

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The \$25 limit on the surcharge paid by licensed dentists for the impaired dentist program increases to \$50.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.